Community
A student of Pak Shamaa has achieved the highest marks in the HSSC-II results announced by Pakistan’s FBSE.

Community
Women Society secretary Hillary Rai Tamang about the society’s activities in the country.

Community
P6

Community
P16

Community

Monday, August 7, 2017
Dhul-Qa’da 15, 1438 AH

GULF TIMES
COMMUNITY

DOHA 35°C—45°C TODAY
LIFESTYLE/HOROSCOPE 11
PUZZLES 12 & 13

UNDER THE MICROSCOPE: Doctors performing surgery in the operating room.

Double-booked

Debate on how effective – or dangerous – it is for surgeons to operate on two patients at once. P4-5
**PRAYER TIME**

Fajr 3.40am  
Shorooq (sunrise) 5.04am  
Zuhr (noon) 11.40am  
Asr (afternoon) 3.08pm  
Maghreb (sunset) 6.18pm  
Isha (night) 7.48pm

**USEFUL NUMBERS**

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<td>Humanitarian Services Office</td>
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**Community**

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**The Big Sick**  
**DIRECTION:** Michael Showalter  
**CAST:** Kumail Nanjiani, Zoe Kazan, Holly Hunter  
**SYNOPSIS:** Based on the real-life courtship between Kumail Nanjiani and Emily V Gordon, The Big Sick tells the story of Pakistan-born aspiring comedian Kumail (Nanjiani), who connects with grad student Emily (Zoe Kazan) after one of his standup sets. However, what they thought would be just a one-night stand blossoms into a relationship, as well as that between the son and his kidnapper, is tested to its limits forcing all men involved to adapt to the extreme circumstances in order to survive.  
**THEATRES:** The Mall, Landmark, Royal Plaza

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**First Kill**  
**DIRECTION:** Steven C Miller  
**CAST:** Bruce Willis, Hayden Christensen, Ty Shelton  
**SYNOPSIS:** Successful businessman, Will Reamun (Hayden Christensen) discovers his peace-loving son, Danny (Ty Shelton), is being bullied at school, and decides to take him on a male-bonding hunting trip just like his own father did when he was growing up. While in the woods the pair comes across a wounded young criminal, Levi Barrett (Gethin Anthony), and despite Will’s efforts to protect him, Danny is kidnapped. The encounter unravels a complex triangle with fatherhood as its connecting threat. The father-son relationship, as well as that between the son and his kidnapper, is tested to its limits forcing all men involved to adapt to the extreme circumstances in order to survive.  
**THEATRES:** The Mall, Landmark, Royal Plaza
challenge young athletes to progressively develop their skills, performance and confidence. The courses are structured to meet the needs of all young players, to have fun, learn new skills and meet new friends in a safe and friendly environment. Members have a choice of venue, with camps held at Doha College Al Waab and Doha College West Bay. The camps are open to boys and girls aged 4-16 years and run from 8am to 1pm daily at each site. Registration Now Open.

Camera Kids: Make Your Own Short Film
WHERE: Aug 6–24
A well-rounded introduction to the different elements of photography, film and filmmaking helps young people make their first one-minute short films. Applicants must be between 11 and 17 years old.

Evolution Sports Qatar
WHERE: Ongoing
Evolution Sports will mark its anniversary throughout 2017 as well as some amazing promotions, ten years on from when the club was formed on September 1, 2007. The club has been working with a panel of coaches and directors to plan the events which will be announced over the coming months.

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Imperial Threads: Motifs and Artisans
WHERE: Museum of Islamic Art
WHEN: Until November 4
This exhibition focuses on the exchange of artistic and material cultures between the Ottoman, Safavid, and Mughal Empires. Highlighting MIA’s masterpiece carpets, among other artworks, from Turkey, Iran and India, these objects will be contextualised within the historical circumstances of politics and artistic production of their time, primarily from the 16th to the 18th centuries.

Salsa Beginners Dance Class
WHERE: B Attitude Spa, West Bay
WHEN: Every Friday
Salsa n Candela offers a variety of dance classes for adults at Beverly Hills Tower West Bay B Attitude Spa, such as Salsa every Friday and other Latin dance during other days of the week.

Qatar Summer Festival
WHERE: Until Sept 5
ACROSS Doha
Summer Festival has just been announced and it will run twice as long this year. That means more family fun, entertainment, activities and promotions across Qatar this summer. The extended Qatar Summer Festival will run from Eid al-Fitr to Eid al-Adha. Prepare for more than 100 activities this time round. Best of all there will be malls full of shopping discounts across Doha. Discounts of up to 50% are offered and anybody spending more than QR200 at participating outlets will be entered into a draw to win a stack of cash or even a luxury car.

Summer Workshop 2017 for kids
WHERE: IAI
WHEN: July-Aug
Summer break is a long-awaited respite for your kids after months of hitting the books. This is an opportunity for them to hone their current skills, pick up a new hobby, or simply stay active, whether their interest lies in dance, music or arts. This summer, get your kids up and going by enrolling them at IAI! Starting three years and above, we have courses to offer this summer such as Ballet Kids, Strum-A-Long, Bolly Thunka, Music Fun, ARTmazing & more.
Running two rooms

The practice occurs in teaching hospitals where senior attending surgeons delegate trainees to perform parts of one surgery while the attending surgeon works on a second patient in another operating room. Sometimes senior surgeons aren't even in the OR and are seeing patients elsewhere, writes Sandra G. Boodman

The controversial practice has been standard in many teaching hospitals for decades, its safety and ethics largely unquestioned and its existence unknown to those most affected: people undergoing surgery.

But over the past two years, the issue of overlapping surgery — in which a doctor operates on two patients in different rooms during the same time period — has ignited an impassioned debate in the medical community, attracted scrutiny by the powerful US Senate Finance Committee that oversees Medicare and Medicaid, and prompted some hospitals, including the University of Virginia’s, to circumscribe the practice.

Known as “running two rooms” — or double-booked, simultaneous or concurrent surgery — the practice occurs in teaching hospitals where senior attending surgeons delegate trainees — usually residents or fellows — to perform parts of one surgery while the attending surgeon works on a second patient in another operating room. Sometimes senior surgeons aren’t even in the OR and are seeing patients elsewhere.

Hospitals decide whether to allow the practice and are primarily responsible for policing it. Medicare billing rules permit it as long as the attending surgeon is present during the critical portion of each operation — and that portion is defined by the surgeon. And while it occurs in many specialties, double-booking is believed to be most common in orthopaedics, cardiac surgery and neurosurgery.

The issue was catapulted into public consciousness in October 2015 by an exhaustive investigation of concurrent surgery at Harvard’s famed Massachusetts General Hospital by The Boston Globe. The validity of the story has been vehemently disputed by hospital officials who defend their care as safe and appropriate.

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The practice has also figured prominently in cases in South Florida, Nashville and, most recently, Seattle.

Critics of the practice, who include some surgeons and patient-safety advocates, say that double-booking adds unnecessary risk, erodes trust and primarily enriches specialists. Surgery, they say, is not piecework and cannot be scheduled like trains: Unexpected complications are not uncommon. All patients “deserve the sole and undivided attention of the surgeon, and that trumps all other considerations,” said Michael Mulholland, chair of surgery at the University of Michigan Health System, which halted double-booking a decade ago. Surgeons might leave the room when a patient’s incision is being closed, Mulholland said. A computerised system records the doctor’s entry and exit.

“It doesn’t do any good to check out your surgeon if they’re not even going to be in the room,” said Lisa McGiffert, director of Consumers Union’s Safe Patient Project. “We all know about the dangers of multitasking. This adds a layer of danger if you have the most expert person coming in and out.”

Indiana orthopaedic surgeon James Rickert regards double-booking as a form of bail-out and switch. “The only reason it has continued is that patients are asleep,” said Rickert, president of the Society for Patient-Centered Orthopedics, a doctor group.

“Having a fellow so you can run two rooms helps augment your income,” he added. “You can bill for six procedures: You do three and the fellow does three.” The critical portion of the operation required by Medicare and designated by the surgeon can mean “running in and checking two screws for 10 seconds.”

Defenders of the practice, which has been the subject of a handful of studies with mixed results, say it can be done safely and allows more patients to receive care.

“It’s extremely important for us to make sure (all surgeries) are done with the highest quality,” said Peter Dunn, Mass General’s executive medical director of perioperative administration. Officials at his hospital, Dunn said in a recent interview, have “never traced back a quality issue” to concurrent surgery, which involves a minority of procedures.

Mass General complies with all applicable guidelines and regulations, Dunn said. The hospital now explicitly requires doctors to inform patients if an operation will overlap as part of the consent process, which may occur just before the start of surgery.

In January, a Boston jury found that a Mass General spine surgeon who failed to inform a 45-year-old financial analyst that he was running two rooms was not responsible for the patient’s subsequent quadriplegia.

No one knows how many of the America’s 4,900 hospitals that receive Medicare payments — about 1,000 of which are teaching hospitals — allow the practice, the US Senate Finance Committee noted in a recent report. The committee called on hospitals to adopt stronger policies and consent forms that go beyond opaque boilerplate statements that grant broad permission
Critics of the practice say that double-booking adds unnecessary risk, erodes trust and primarily enriches specialists. Surgery, they say, is not piecework and cannot be scheduled like trains. Unexpected complications are not uncommon. “It doesn’t do any good to check out your surgeon if they’re not even going to be in the room,” says Lisa McGiffert, director of Consumers Union’s Safe Patient Project.

L.D. Britt, a past president of the ACS and chairman of surgery at Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk, debunks the notion that efficiency has to do with concurrency. “Unless you’re closing, that surgeon should be there,” he says. “Most (surgeons) are doing it for lifestyle.”

He is troubled by what he regards as a double standard: Very few surgeons would consent to the practice for themselves or a relative.
Pak Shamaa tops in HSSC-II Exam 2017

A student of Pak Shamaa has achieved the highest marks in the HSSC-II results announced by the Federal Board of Intermediate & Secondary Education Islamabad, Pakistan. Kashaf Riaz secured a total of 970 out of a total of 1100 marks, clinching the top position in Qatar. The school showed “remarkable progress,” M A Shahid, the president of the Management Committee of the school, said in his statement. He praised all the members of the staff for the result and said he expects even better results in future. Principal Nabila Kaukab congratulated the teachers, students and parents for the results. Seen here are the school's top achievers.

Kashaf Riaz
Tayyeba Aslam
Essa Muhammad Sadiq
Aisha Sharzad
Sara Bokhari
Aqsa Ishtiaq

Wardah Khalid
Maryam Ifthihar
Jwariyah Saeed Butt
Aqsa Anees
Aamina Usman
Fatima Tufail
Rabea Shahbaz

Brunch and Seafood Night at DoubleTree

The L2 Restaurant is famous for its record-breaking business lunch that has also received the FACT Dining Award 2017 for the Best Business Lunch in town. Now there will be something new: every Thursday, your seafood night dreams are about to come true, followed by a DoubleTree inspired brunch every Friday. The team behind the initiative says: “We know that weekends are made for relaxation and gatherings with friends and family. You have the occasion; we have the perfect location for you!” The Friday brunch is from 1pm to 4pm and is priced at QR149 (inclusive of buffet drinks). The Seafood Night is from 6:30pm to 10:30pm and is priced at QR169 (inclusive of buffet drinks). DoubleTree by Hilton Doha-Old Town is located only a few minutes walking distance from the most famous attractions in Doha: Souq Waqif, the Museum of Islamic Art and Corniche.
The Pakistan International School, Qatar (PISQ) has clinched the top 11 positions in Qatar in the FBISE HSSC-I Annual Examination 2017. Maleeha Asif got the first position with 451 marks; followed by Rubab Fatima and Sana Saleem with 448 marks; and Shahzaib Ahmed with 447 marks. A total of 127 students sat the exam this year out of which 96 passed, setting the pass ratio at 76%. Of these, 28 students got A1 and A grades.

Principal Nargis Raza Otho congratulated the students, parents and teachers on the results. She said that the school is “escalating academically” and that “it will be a preferred academic haunt for Pakistani students in the days to come for FBISE stream of study in Qatar.” Pakistani ambassador Shahzad Ahmad also congratulated all the stakeholders. He said that “education is the only remedy that can cure socio-economic and ethical maladies and guarantee a secure future.” He urged the students, parents, and teachers to play their respective roles sincerely to strengthen their nation and country in the years to come.

Seen here are the school’s top achievers.
Quinoa boom has disastrous consequences

Quinoa has become the grain of choice for trendy food bloggers in recent years - which was initially great news for Bolivian farmers. But as demand increases, buyers are turning to cheaper mass production methods, leaving traditional farmers out in the cold.

By Georg Ismar

It's market day in Challapata, a small village in the mountains of western Bolivia. A few vendors are setting themselves up on a gravelled area the size of two football pitches, with the snow-covered Andes in the background.

A couple of years ago, this market would have been teeming with sellers and their sacks of black, yellow and red quinoa. But not any more.

The residents of Challapata though they'd hit the jackpot with quinoa, a grain traditionally grown here and whose price has exploded in recent years - but in Challapata, there's not much of the boom left to be seen.

The traditional farmers here can't compete with their bigger rivals, who rely heavily on pesticides, and whose increased production has led to a drastic fall in prices.

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Also known as “the gold of the Incas,” quinoa is the seed of the Chenopodium quinoa and because of its alleged nutritional values, has been lauded as a “superfood.”

Until relatively recently it was only really eaten by the indigenous peoples of the Andes, in places like Challapata, which is 3,800 metres above sea level.

But in recent years it has become fashionable in the West too, partly because of the success of Peruvian cooking abroad. The United Nations declared 2013 the “International Year of Quinoa.”

When Bolivia’s President Evo Morales takes trips in his government jet, he likes to snack on quinoa bars. And the craze has also brought forth products like quinoa shampoo.

Worldwide production has soared from 60,000 tonnes ten years ago to 250,000 tonnes. For a while, quinoa drove growth in Bolivia – but that soon started to change. Instead of the 6,000 dollars per tonne that Bolivia was raking in at its high point, it now only gets around 2,500 dollars.

“When the prices kept going up, we ate chips at home instead of quinoa so that we could sell more,” says 29-year-old farmer German Velarde.

He has four children to feed, but only earns 700 bolivianos (100 dollars) a week. “Others are raking in the dollars but it’s not real, good quinoa,” he says.

The story of quinoa is one typical of globalisation. Suddenly, a product gains in popularity and its seeds are manipulated to make them adapt to other environments.

In Bolivia, indigenous peoples have been growing quinoa by hand and without pesticides for hundreds of years. But Peru has now overtaken Bolivia as the market leader, and farmers there...
are growing quinoa in industrial quantities. Indeed, quantity, not quality, is the order of the day.

Three years ago, Bolivian farmers were earning 1,500 bolivianos (217 dollars) for a sack weighing 46 kilos. Now, they can only hope for 320 bolivianos (46 dollars). By contrast, 500 grams of organic quinoa in a US supermarket will set you back about 4 dollars.

Quinoa is now also being farmed in the United States, India and China. Because of the drop in prices and because of drought, production in Bolivia plunged from 89,000 tonnes to 69,000 tonnes last year, following six years of growth.

Around 200 of the country’s 2,000 quinoa farmers have given up, according to Benjamin Martinez, president of the Bolivian quinoa farmers’ association.

Back in the market place, Julian Canavari has travelled 80 kilometres to Challapata with his girlfriend Matilde Duran to sell three sacks of quinoa. “They were golden times, 2013, 2014,” he says. “I bought my first ever car with the money.” Today, he barely manages to pay for the petrol.

“In Peru they’re farming modified quinoa in order to increase production, which destroys the prices,” says Canavari, frowning. “In Europe, nobody knows that quinoa isn’t necessarily quinoa. It would be much better for us if we could sell directly to retailers there.”

Pointing to the nearby quinoa fields, he adds, “A few years ago there was only quinoa here. Now some are switching back to grains and clover for cattle.”

On the drive home, Canavari stops to chat to a farmer and his wife, who are harvesting red quinoa with sickles. They talk about the fall in prices, and Canavari gives them a couple of coca leaves to chew on – it stops people feeling so tired.

Around 460 grams of coca leaves cost 40 bolivianos, while the same amount of quinoa costs just 3.20 bolivianos – another indication of the problems the local farmers face. Canavari’s 30 hectares of quinoa soon won’t be worth keeping any more. “If it carries on like this we’ll have to move away to the city, to Oruro or La Paz,” he says. - DPA
Donald Trump’s traits

Do you agree or disagree that Donald Trump possesses the following traits?

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<th>Trait</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
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<td>Successful businessman</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Excellent negotiator</td>
<td>39%</td>
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<td>Hires the best people</td>
<td>31%</td>
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<td>Gets people to do what he wants</td>
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<td>Fires people who need to be fired</td>
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<td>39%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Understands important issues in detail</td>
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<td>50%</td>
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Source: YouGov
Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service
Must-have elements for building a sustainable new home

W
t when someone builds a home for you, you have the opportunity to make it as sustainable, eco-friendly and energy-efficient as possible. Not only are sustainable homes more cost-effective over the long term, they have a smaller environmental impact, and can be more appealing to homebuyers when you’re ready to sell and move.

If you’re having a home built for you, it’s the perfect time to think about sustainability and energy efficiency. The experts offer some points to consider as you’re planning your sustainable home:

- Choose a builder who specialises in sustainable homes. While virtually all home builders today will offer eco-friendly or energy-efficient features, sustainable home builders take a whole-house approach. Their plans should include more than just high-efficiency windows and appliances, and lots of insulation. Sustainability planning should also incorporate elements like the position of the home on its lot, number and position of windows in the home, and shade and ventilation, among other considerations.
- Heating and cooling typically represent the largest portion of a home’s energy consumption. When choosing an HVAC system for your sustainable home, choose an option like Coleman(R) EcoClon(TM) Variable Capacity Residential Systems, which use leading-edge technology to tune the system’s temperature settings and performance for optimum function give exterior conditions.
- The systems also self-monitor to ensure they operate at the highest level of efficiency while providing maximum heating and cooling comfort.
- The orientation of your home can enhance heating and cooling efficiency. For example, if you live in a colder region, placing your home with the maximum number of windows facing south can allow natural light to help heat your home in the winter. If you live in a warm climate, minimising the number of windows on the west side of the home and planting shade trees on that side can help with cooling. Plant a tree that loses its leaves in the winter, and you can allow light to reach that side of the house when the weather is colder.
- The more compact a home is, the more energy efficient it will be. You don’t have to build a tiny home to achieve a more efficient design. A two-story home can be more compact and energy efficient than a sprawling single-story design.
- Insulation and air sealing can greatly improve a home’s energy efficiency. Talk to your builder about the best kind of insulation for your needs, and learn about R value and how it affects the efficiency of insulation. Discuss how the builder seals potential air leaks in the home, paying close attention to windows, doors and spots where pipes or wires enter the home.
- Finally, a truly sustainable home is one that makes maximum use of recycled and recyclable materials. Talk to your builder about the construction materials they will use. Are they sustainably sourced? Will they be able to be recycled someday down the road when they are no longer usable in your home?

Demand for sustainable homes is likely to continue growing. Choosing to build your new home with sustainable materials, systems and practices can ensure you reap the rewards of a more environmentally friendly home now and in the future.
Wordsearch

Every letter of the alphabet is used at least once. Squares with the same number in have the same letter in. Work out which number represents which letter.

Adams Pooch Cafe

Garfield

Sudoku

Bound And Gagged
Super Cryptic Clues

ACROSS
1. Sound you understand (6)
4. The bandits, in gangs, capturing the equipment (8)
10. Little jingle in the hair commercial? (7)
11. Right inside the old jar (7)
12. A small D for 'dandelion'? (4)
13. Do, to stay alive (5,5)
16. Not having advanced so far in the instruction (6)
17. Can and are flying solo, anyhow (7)
20. Set and waiting (7)
21. A portly female and a priest (6)
24. Get loaded and become bossy (4,6)
25. Damages the hemblems! (4)
27. Not a depressed area: a centre of industry (3-4)
29. The soldier must be remanded again, the magistrate holds (7)
30. They’re teaching art, having a break when the siren goes off (8)
31. Stick by, having had trouble before (6)

DOWN
1. Leaving word (8)
2. Offers to take Kate out for something nice to eat (6,5)
3. On British game birds (4)
5. Told us again the country is in debt (8)
6. 750 plus 250 dollars? (5,5)
7. Head of the lunatic asylum? (3)
8. Be furious and stand up when she emerges (6)
9. Irritated by ‘I have your cold heart’ (5)
14. Not now and again (7,4)
15. The certainty that comes with time (10)
16. A poor writer and a s-sycophant (8)
19. Maintain it’s your private domain (8)
22. Standing the art model outside in the passage (6)
23. With a post on either side, it’s ornamental (5)
25. Left. (3)

Codeword

Wordsearch

Colouring

Answers

Yesterday’s Solutions

ACROSS
Mustang 5 Mumbled 9 Sweep 10 Undermost 11
Origam 12 Envelops 14 Avers 15 Beeswax 18 Labelling 20
India 22 Shortage 24 Stoned 26
Cantonese 27 Irene 28 Sapien 29 Takings.

DOWN
Most of all 2 Sterile 3 Appraisal 4 Gout 5 Made no sign 6 Merge 7 Look out 8
Dates 13 Abridgment 16 A bit thick 17 Re-address 19 Blown up 21 Dungeon 22 Sacks 23
Those 25 Left.
Rejection rationale

Dangal has made Rs2,000 crores, an unheard of sum for a film not based on a big male star in Bollywood so far. And while Aamir Khan has walked away with the credit for its success, the man who is actually the brain and vision behind it, director Nitesh Tiwari, has remained in the background. His career is somewhat unusual. From being on the creative side of the advertising world, his entrance into Bollywood was through children’s movies. He directed Chillar Party, which was produced by Salman Khan. And then Nitesh made Dhoondhna Returns with Amitabh Bachchan.

But with Dangal, he has now firmly made himself into the filmmaker of the moment. He should therefore have his pick of stars whatever he chose to make next, right? Well, not really. Nitesh’s next movie was going to be a biopic again like Dangal. This one was to be based on a book written by a man in his 70s who braved family resistance to become a very successful entrepreneur. Reportedly, the actor that Nitesh had in mind to play the role was Varun Dhawan. When the rumours were floating around, an online movie website tried to confirm it with the director who said he wished for it to be true. But then came news that Varun had decided to not do the movie. And the reason was quite strange: he felt that he was not personally evolved to do such roles. Varun had also rejected biopics in the past too. A lack of evolution is an excuse that doesn’t make too much sense. He had after all acted in Rudhijaur, which was a difficult and intense character to pull off, and he showed that he could do it. But since then he has trodden on safe territory doing out and out commercial roles.

So chances are it is not that Varun is not evolved enough, he wants to remain in his comfort zone for the moment. And to refuse the director of Dangal indicates just how cautious he is in getting out of it. Though there is also another factor in all this. While directors who work with Aamir pull of box office miracles, they have rarely been able to replicate it with other stars. So, by opting not to do the movie, Varun might have thought it was not much of a loss.

Cast out

Vikas Bahl had been one of the most sought-after directors in Bollywood after he made Queen, a movie which went on to be a blockbuster despite having no big male stars. It was a funny and well-crafted story about a woman who goes on a solo vacation to get over the pain of her fiancee running away just before they are to marry.

After Queen, Bahl made Shuddh which bombed at the box office. But the memory of Queen was still there and it was a given that he would not be short of work. Plus he had a production company along with some of the other new-age filmmakers like Anurag Kashyap.

But over the last few months, Bahl’s fortunes seem to have crumbled. He had a sexual harassment charge against him by a girl who had been working for his production company. She accused him of making unwanted advances when drunk during a work related to trip to Goa.

Little was heard about it after the initial splash that the news made. But now it seems that there are repercussions. Apparently, he had wanted Hrithik Roshan to act in his movie Krrish 4 instead, which is a home production.

Over the last few months, Bahl’s fortunes seem to have crumbled.

No debate

Ever since Kangana Ranaut, when invited to his talk show, told Karan Johar that he was a flag-bearer of nepotism in Bollywood, it is as if a can of worms had been opened. All the young successful film stars, almost overwhelmingly from powerful Bollywood families, have at one time or the other tried to deride Kangana or defended their presence in movies.

Kangana has found large support in the online social networking crowd but in the industry itself, she has cut something of a lone figure. That is also because there are so few self-made stars there.

The one man who could actually have taken a stand was Shah Rukh Khan, because he can claim to have attained superstardom without any family connections unlike Salman or Aamir. Since he is promoting his movie When Harry Met Sejal and is accessible to the media, he was asked by a news agency about his take on the nepotism debate. And his answer was non-committal. He said he doesn’t understand the issue at all because he came from Delhi to Mumbai at the age of 23 and found complete acceptance.

It would have been surprising if Shah Rukh had given any other answer. Because even though he is self made, he has been intimately close to all the film families of Bollywood. And then there is the question of his own children now growing up and soon being of the age when they can join the film world as actors.

Totally cut

There has been no let-up in the absurdities of the Central Board of Film Certification, more popularly termed as the Censor Board, which gives ratings that decide whether a movie is fit for children or adults.

Their target at present is Bhoomipoo, which stars Nawazuddin Siddiqui. When the movie was sent to the Censors, they apparently demanded 48 cuts in it. Even by their standards, this seemed over the top. Nawazuddin, when asked to comment, said that if all the changes were to be implemented then it would turn it into a short film. And these cuts were demanded after giving the movie an ‘A’ certificate, which means only adults could see it anyway.

When the director of the movie went to plead with the Board’s controversial chief, Pahlaj Nihalani, he apparently said that if it came to them again in the revising committee they would make even more of cuts.

In recent times, filmmakers do have recourse to appeal to an unrelated third party to get their movie passed without the bizarre cuts of the Board, but even so, it is a hassle involving additional time and energy.
Detroit: Disquieting look at a disturbing time

By Colin Covert

Detroit is real-life tragedy, drama and melodrama, a bloody slice of America’s prejudiced racial history.

The setting is the Detroit race riot of July 1967. The five days and nights of violence, looting and property damage were one of the largest urban uprisings of the 20th century. As a nation America still nurses festering wounds from the conflict. The film is imperfect, but for anyone who still harbours delusions about systemic racism and police–community relations, Detroit is an important and effective wake-up call.

By the time the Detroit riot ended, 33 blacks and 10 whites were killed, 1,889 people were injured and over 7,200 were arrested. It’s an expansive canvas for filmmaking. But director Kathryn Bigelow and writer Mark Boal (collaborators on The Hurt Locker and the Oscar-winning Zero Dark Thirty) follow their insightful stories of difficult US police actions in Iraq and Afghanistan with a sharp study of ruinous domestic conflict on the home front.

They understand that the pandemonium on the streets of Detroit was only part of a larger, ongoing crisis. They keep their focus tight, recreating a single horrifying event. In the form of you–are–there reportage, they examine the notorious “Algiers Motel incident.”

While the battle raged around them, a trio of white Detroit policemen searching for snipers seized a section of the Algiers Motel. For two hours, they used batons, rifle butts and death threats to beat and brutally interrogate 10 black and two white youths staying there. Having found no snipers or weapons, the police exited, leaving the dead bodies of three young black men in their wake.

Detroit returns to the scene of the crime, studying the mismatched characters in a room full of weapons and watching as various fuses burn ever closer to detonating the powder keg.

Bigelow has fashioned a formally daring film. Largely following a classic five-act story structure, it creates a nearly flawless blend of archival newsmontage shots and cinematographer Barry Ackroyd’s intentionally archaic handheld footage.

It spends the majority of its 142-minute running time holding us hostage in enclosed spaces. The jittery, claustrophobic close-ups create an unrelenting sense of being imprisoned alongside the ensemble of characters. When they flinch in fright from their captors’ vicious threats or howl in pain and despair, it’s impossible to feel any less. Some critics of Zero Dark Thirty misread it as depicting the CIA’s use of torture interrogation as crucial to hunting down Osama bin Laden. Detroit definitively proves that Bigelow finds abuse questioning vile.

The film opens with the look and feel of a recruiting poster, welcoming viewers to a basic understanding of how black life in America culminated in gunfi re and Molotov cocktails scarring the landscape of the nation’s fifth largest city. With the colourful storytelling “migration series” paintings of the late African-American artist Jacob Lawrence, the opening narrates the mass movement of blacks from the rural South to the industrial North between World War I and World War II.

The new home was no utopia, with social and political setbacks different but hardly easier. When unemployment, poor education and housing, and entrenched prejudice fuelled white flight from the urban core combined with police misconduct, the city’s black population exploded like a pressure cooker.

The trigger point here is a police raid on a popular unlicensed speakeasy where Vietnam veterans are celebrating their return home, a roundup to jail that is the final step too far. Here, as throughout the film, the facts and the look of the locale are spot on. Detroit is not a Black Lives Matter homily or an alternative version of history. It aims to hold as close to the facts on record as possible. This would not add up to an accomplished, chilling and undeniably powerful piece of filmmaking if the cast gave hammy, actorish performances. Will Poulter defi nitely proves that Bigelow finds abusive questioning vile.

The film gives some stories unearned attention. I wish there had been less focus on the nightmarish suffering by Stax Records vocalist Larry Reed (Algee Smith) and his friend Fred Temple (Jacob Latimore). It rushes through the courtroom debates that the case developed years later. The motel’s two white visitors, Juli Hysell (Hannah Murray) and Karen Malloy (Kaitlyn Dever) get more attention than their underdeveloped characters seem to have earned.

Perhaps there are too many issues and individuals for any of them to command centre stage. In any event, Detroit is a solid, socially important and harrowing statement about American society. If it lacks a defi nitive ending, so does the ongoing story we are all living now.
Women in Nepal have started moving abroad in increasing numbers. They are spread all over the world for work and education, and Qatar serves as a desired destination for many of them thanks to its secure working environment and higher wages.

The country hosts a large number of Nepali women working as professors, engineers, staff nurses, HR assistants, beauticians, security guards, marketers, salesladies, cashiers and cleaners.

The Nepalese Women Society (NWS) in Qatar aims to bring all women under a single roof and encourage them to get involved in social activities. The organisation has supplied funds to help stop human trafficking from Nepal, and for educational support of orphaned and street children.

Community caught up with Hillary Rai Tamang, NWS secretary, and talked about the activities of NWS among other matters.

When and how was Nepalese Women Society formed?
NWS was founded in June 2012 by a group of Nepali ladies led by Rekha Rai. The aim was to unite Nepali women staying and working in Qatar, to assist each other during the time of need, and to frequently organise programmes to promote Nepalese art and culture. As of now, we have a second working committee led by Sushmita Bhattacharjee. Any Nepali women working and living in Qatar can come and join NWS. We have a vibrant women’s community here. We annually celebrate the International Women’s Day and the Teej festival. This time too, we are organising a Teej programme on August 25, in which singers as popular as Amrita Limbu, Sandhya Budha and Chanda Aryal will come from Kathmandu to perform.

How many Nepali women are working and staying here in Qatar? What are the jobs they have?
My estimate is that there are approximately 20,000 Nepali women in Qatar. Most of them work and others are under family sponsorships. Some of the women run their own enterprises. A large number is working in supermarkets, beauty parlours, cleansing companies, hotels and restaurants. Some are security guards, nurses, engineers, medical professionals and office managers.

Are there any challenges that women face while working here?
There is no gender discrimination and no bar on work in Qatar for working women. Here, we see women from Nepal, India, the Philippines, Egypt, Africa, US and Europe working at various places. And, Nepali women can learn a lot from other nationalities. Nepali women have more privilege and a secure environment here.

Are there any recurring problems faced by Nepali women workers?
Our sisters face problems associated with the lack of proper training, skill, orientation and language. I suggest all to receive proper training and learn English language before coming to work here. Other problems faced by Nepali women come from manpower agencies in Kathmandu and the Nepali immigration department. Agencies frequently provide fake information about their jobs. The immigration department, on the other hand, asks all kinds of questions that are less polite and less appropriate to women – even if they have all the necessary documents.

What are the current programmes to support Nepali women in Qatar and community as a whole?
First, I request all our Nepali sisters in Qatar to come under the banner of NWS. Membership is open to all. Our organisation recently completed a blood donation camp and the Teej celebration is coming up. As you know, Teej is the biggest festival of Nepali women, and it is pleasure to celebrate among our sisters here, away from home.

How do you collaborate with other agencies to support the community and Nepali women?
Currently, there are around 50 Nepali community organisations in Qatar, and we are collaborating with all of them. We are participating in their programmes and they are participating in our programmes.

Do you also support women in Nepal?
We are definitely thinking about it. We need to first make ourselves large and strong. Thereafter, we will actively participate in supporting disadvantaged women in Nepal. In the past, however, we have done some Nepal-based activities.

How do you differentiate the work environment for women in Qatar from that of Nepal?
The work environment here is very good. We don’t have to face any gender discrimination. Qatar is one of the safest countries for women. Here, I can drive alone in the middle of night, go anywhere during emergencies and there is no bar on work. We can work in any sector we want, and get better salaries. These prospects are few in Nepal.

Do you have any message for women in Nepal who aspire to come to Qatar and support their families?
Qatar is the best and the safest destination for Nepali women to work. There are a lot of jobs and opportunities that pay better and provide good exposure. I warn them to be careful with manpower agencies, some of whom tell all kinds of lies and take more fees than needed. Those who want to come here need to gather details about the work they are going to do, learn skills pertinent to the work and also some basic language and computer skills.